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LATEST NEWS

9:55 AM EST Monday

State awards \$213,057 for farmers' markets

The Kentucky Agricultural Development Board has approved \$213,057 in funding for six farmers' markets, including one in Louisville and another in Bullitt County.

According to a news release, the grants are part of the 2005 Farmers' Market Competitive Grants Program. The program was established to help support community and regional events where farmers can sell produce. The Agricultural Development Board has set aside \$1.5 million for the program, which provides matching funds for the costs of establishing and operating the markets.

The six organizations approved for funding during the board's most recent meeting were: Anderson County Farmers' Market Association; Bullitt County Conservation District; Carter County Extension District Board; Nelson County Horticulture Advisory Board and Nelson County Fiscal Court; Rockcastle County Farmers' Market; and Louisville's Russell Neighborhood Development Authority Inc.

The Kentucky Agricultural Development Board was established to oversee the Agricultural Development Fund that was created using half of Kentucky's revenue from the national Master Settlement with tobacco companies. The board uses 65 percent of its funds received from the settlement for regional and statewide agricultural projects, while 35 percent is distributed among individual counties based on their dependence on tobacco for revenue.

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